

Alexander's Empire



Read the paragraph for background information. Then use the map to answer the questions.

Alexander III of Macedon was the son of King Philip. After Philip's death, Alexander took the throne and began his rule by unifying the restless Greek city-states. He led the Greek army across the Hellespont and into Asia where he spent the rest of his career conquering more lands until his untimely death by fever at the age of 33.

Alexander was considered charming, brilliant, and hot tempered. He had a classical education under the philosopher Aristotle and was athletically gifted. His feats of skill and bravery on his horse Bucephalus grew to mythic proportions.

He was only 20 when he came to power and only 33 when he died, so the empire had not had a chance to stabilize. He had one son, but the child was still a young boy. Consequently, after Alexander's death, his generals began to fight bitterly among themselves as they divided up his kingdom. The empire did not last.

In this map, Nearchus' fleet refers to part of Alexander the Great's army that he sent by boat under the care of his friend Nearchus to meet him back at Susa.

1. After Alexander visited Memphis for the first time, where did he go next? What does it look like he did there?

2. Which river forms his northernmost boundary?

3. Which battle location is northwest of Arbela?

4. About how far is Herat from Ecbatana?

5. Which battle location is directly east of Herat?

6. What are the approximate coordinates of Alexandria in latitude and longitude?

7. Which capital city is closest to 32°N and 48°E?

8. Where did Alexander's journey begin?

9. Which is closer to Susa: Persepolis or Arbela?

10. Which Greek city is shown on the map?

